

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 12 are amended.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 12 have been amended in order to address some of the concerns noted during the June 28, 2007 personal interview. In particular, claims 1 and 12 have been amended to recite that the braking force on the front wheels is increased in comparison with the braking force on the rear wheels. Claims 1 and 12 have also been amended in order to clarify that either the wheels refers to either of the front wheels.

Applicants assert that the phrase "braking force on the front wheels is increased during execution of the braking force distribution control, but decreased when anti-skid control for either of the wheels is executed" is clear in view of Applicants' page 22, line 7-page 23, line 13.

As clearly discussed on page 22, line 7-page 23, line 13 of Applicants specification, as a general rule, a braking force on the front wheels is increased during a braking force distribution control. However, as an exception to that general rule, when a braking force on either of the front wheels becomes high and a front wheel is thus rendered locked, an anti-skid control is performed during a braking force distribution control in order to decrease the braking force on the front wheels. The braking force distribution control continues because if the braking force distribution control is abruptly cancelled, a disturbance of the vehicle attitude would be created. Applicants have thus clarified when the braking force should be increased or decreased during a braking force distribution control. One skilled in the art would clearly understand such an exception.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Banno et al. (Banno), U.S. Publication No. 2002/0024252. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

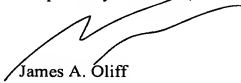
In addition to the comments presented in the July 20, 2007 Request for Reconsideration, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12 in order to clarify that the controller is configured to execute as suggested by the Examiner. Because claims 1 and 12 have been amended to recite "configured to" as suggested by the Examiner in order to give patentable weight to Applicants' controller, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider claims 1 and 12 in view of Applicants' previous arguments.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: August 21, 2007

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